HF Happenings 445

6 March, SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest

12 March, March Madness YL Sprint
19 and 20 March, SARL VHF and UHF Analogue / Digital Contest
30 March, SARL 80 m Club Contest, digital
Find the rules in the 2011 SARL Contest Manual

ICASA Changes its Mind about Regulations

The Council of ICASA has decided that the authority will not go through a second public review process but that the final regulations will be published in the Government Gazette soon. No final date was given at this week's SARL/ICASA liaison meeting but it will be before the end of March 2011.

At the liaison meeting the question of reciprocal agreements between SADC countries was also discussed. The SARL delegation pointed out that the SARL request to have this resolved is now long overdue and that some urgent attention should be given to this. The Chairman of the meeting, Phil Molefe, gave instructions to staff attending the meeting to respond to the SARL within a week. He chaired the meeting on behalf of Dumisa Ngwenya who is attending the WRC preparatory meeting in Geneva.

While not yet Gazetted, the license fees will not go up on 1 April 2011 but only in 2012. The license fee for the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 will remain R27.

The SARL delegation also discussed the gazetting of the allocation of 135,7 - 137,6 kHz. The allocation is included in the table of amateur radio frequency allocations, which will be gazetted with the new regulations. ICASA however agreed to investigate the possibility of issuing a separate gazette.

WRC-12: Amateur MF Allocation Moves a Step Closer

Amateur Radio has moved a step closer to a medium frequency (MF) allocation below the AM broadcast band. During the first week of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) of the International

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March 2011

Telecommunication Union, held in Geneva 14 to 25 February, delegates completed the drafting of nine pages of analysis of the technical and regulatory issues related to WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.23: consideration of a possible secondary allocation to the Amateur Service of about 15 kHz somewhere between 415 and 526,5 kHz. Two possible methods of satisfying the agenda item, along with the possibility of there being no change (and therefore no allocation), are set out in the CPM Report, along with the advantages and disadvantages of each. Read more here http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-mf-allocation-moves-a-step-closer.

Progress on 500 kHz band

The ITU Conference Preparatory Meeting, or CPM, for the World Radiocommunication Conference 2012, or WRC-12, has completed its work on the agenda item that considers an allocation of up to 15 kHz in the band 415 to 526,5 kHz.

Three options, one of which is no allocation to the amateurs, are proposed. Whilst initially it was hoped that spectrum around and near to 500 kHz could be allocated for amateur use, the maritime service has identified a new requirement for this part of the spectrum. Because of this, there is no support from national administrations like Ofcom to support amateur allocation in this part of the spectrum.

One of the remaining options agreed by the ITU CPM is the so-called Method A, originally put forward by the RSGB. This is for an allocation of up to 15 kHz between 472 kHz and 487 kHz. The Americans, Canadians and others within their regional group, CITEL, favour a different option, Method B, which is for a split allocation between 461 – 469 kHz and 471 – 478 kHz, totalling 15 kHz. Method A is the main option being considered within CEPT, which has yet to reach what it terms a European Common Proposal on the option.

None of this preparatory work affects our temporary access to 501 – 504 kHz, apart from the tests that have been carried out by the maritime service in respect of their proposed new system. UK amateurs who wish to experiment at this part of the spectrum can still obtain a NoV from Ofcom. Further information is at www.rsgb.org/spectrumforum/mf/srp501.php.

The HF Bands Come Alive For the ARRL International DX SSB Contest

With the CW running of the ARRL International DX Contest over, it is time to get ready for the phone portion. With the solar flux peaking at 125 during the CW contest - and 10 meters in unexpectedly good shape and open to Europe during the event - one wonders if the same

kind of conditions will be present for the phone running, 00:00 UTC Saturday 5 March – 23:59 UTC Sunday 6 March. With another region of the Sun coming around to face Earth for this contest, there could be conditions that are more unstable. However, if the solar flux index stays high - and there are not any more solar flares - the ARRL DX SSB Contest could have some openings like there have not been in years. Are you ready? Read more here http://www.arrl.org/news/the-hf-bands-come-alive-for-the-arrl-international-dx-ssb-contest.

Thirty-five ways to spot a Radio Amateur

This item comes via the Southgate ARC from the web site of the West Tennessee Amateur Radio Society www.qsl.net/wtarc/youreaham.htm. You might be (and probably are) an Amateur Radio operator, if:

1. You have bought black electrical tape in ten packs.
2. You have stripped wire with your teeth.
3. You have told your child, "One day, all this will be yours," and he or she did not respond at all.
4. You would rather help another amateur radio friend to hook up new equipment, or to put up a new tower, than to mow your own lawn.
5. You have grabbed the wrong end of a hot soldering iron.
6. You have gotten an RF burn from your own antenna.
7. You have given out RST reports while you were on the telephone.
8. When the microphones or visual aids at a meeting did not work, you rushed up to the front to fix them.
9. You have told the XYL, when she noticed a new rig in the shack, "Why, that has been there for years."
10. You have set your watch to UTC only.
11. You have had to patch your roof after an antenna project fell onto it.
12. You have put a GPS tracker in the XYL's car or on the riding mower, just so you could watch it on APRS.
13. You have tapped out "CQ" or "HI" on the car horn in Morse Code to another Radio Amateur.
14. Your teenager has refused to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine.
15. You know the Latitude, Longitude and Elevation of your home QTH.
16. You have gone into the local Radio Shack store, and the store clerk has asked you where something is and how it works.
17. You have answered the telephone with your call sign, and then finished the conversation with "73" and your call sign.
18. You have looked for antennas, radios and Morse Code in movies and television shows.
19. When you look at anything made of wire or metal tubing, you wonder if it could be used as an antenna.
20. Your call sign is listed on one or more of your hats, T-shirts, or other garments.
21. You regularly carry one or more tools in your pockets at any given time.
22. When any kind of batteries go on sale, you get really excited.
23. When you look at a barbecue grill, it creates ideas about ground plane antennas.
24. You have designated all your friends as radio amateurs or non-radio amateurs.
25. You have referred to your Ham friends by their call sign suffixes instead of their real names.
26. You have intentionally confused non-radio amateurs by telling them that the only things you talk about on the air are pork products.
27. You have intentionally scared non-radio amateurs with the word "RADIATION"!
28. You have looked at telephone poles and power line towers as potential antenna supports.

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29. You have thought you were still hearing CW, SSB or SSTV tones, even when your amateur radio was off.

30. Your Go-Bag has more clothes in it than your dresser does.

31. You have a SKYWARN sticker on your back window.

32. Your significant other sits in the back seat, and your radios ride in the front.

33. Your neighbours wonder if you are a "Narc" (narcotics officer), a Spy or a Federal Agent.

34. The cops pull you over because they want to see the inside of your car.

35. Your cell phone's ring tone is your amateur radio call sign, sent in Morse Code http://www.planetofnoise.com/midi/morse2mid.php.

The West Tennessee ARS ask, "Does anyone know who is the original author of the first 30 lines above? If so, please e-mail kb4rpv@arrl.net so credit can be given for the correct author. Most of these were adapted from the website of Colby Gilliam, KE4FVU, www.qsl.net/wtarc/

DX-Hunter - The new iPhone-App for DX-enthusiasts

By Michael Schneider, DJ1MS, Hornungstr 14, 90431 Nuernberg, Germany. dxhunter@live.de

The monitoring of DX clusters supports the hunt for new countries and/or band points today. However, often you are not at the transceiver or receiver just when the searched-for DX station gets active. 'DX-Hunter', a new application (App) for iPhone, iPad or iPod touch watches the worldwide DX activities permanently and raises an alarm, as soon as a wanted/needed station appears on the bands.

Thanks to the use of the so-called Push Notifications, the application does not even need to be running to do so. When your App is closed, you will be notified by an acoustic signal and a short message on the display. With a click Ð or better a touch Ð the App can be started and the latest alerts (=spots of needed stations) are transferred automatically to your mobile device. If the App remains closed, the DX-Hunter-Server will store your alerts of the last 4 hours (up to 300 entries) meanwhile. After reactivating 'DX-Hunter' those alerts will be transferred automatically, too.

DX-Hunter is the first and so far, the only DX hunting application for iPhone, iPad and iPod touch. Primarily programmed for iPhone and iOS4, also the other devices mentioned above as well as such ones with the former operating system (iPhone OS 3) are supported.

The DX-Hunter-Server fetches and analyses the spots from the worldwide DX-Cluster network and forward them to your mobile device according to your logbook entries and/or individual App settings where they will be clearly presented including a world map with animated pin. Spot-duplicates are suppressed automatically by the system if they are within one hour. The latest 300 transferred alerts are also stored in a compact database on your mobile device so that they are even available when you are not connected to a network or for later review.

A huge amount of settings available is making it possible that you customize the App regarding to your needs:

You can choose which kind of spots are interesting to you: Spots of stations where the entity is still missing in your logbook, a certain band of an entity is still missing, the entity is not yet confirmed, a certain band of an entity is not yet confirmed, new calls, new band of a call or all stations (without filtering worked ones).

Additionally you can filter the spots by mode (SSB, CW, digital, beacons), bands (different bands per mode can be chosen), continent, CQ-zone(s), spotters location, etc.

One important advantage of the App is that you can upload your log (in ADIF-format) from your favourite logbook program so that you would not need to select the already worked entities manually. However, DX-Hunter can also be used without uploading your log file, then as a

mobile DX-Cluster-Client en route or at home.

For stations marked as 'worked' in DX-Hunter there are also log files provided to download. Bands covered are 160 – 10 m, including 75 and 60 m.

Conclusion. Thanks to DX-Hunter the hard search for 'New Ones' is over for those DXers whose log is already filled well. Less filled logs will now be filled much faster due to the edge on information. DX Hunter can be purchased at Apple's AppStore for 11.99 US$.

DXCC News - Awards Processing Update

The ARRL Awards-Blog page reports the following: "We are nearly done with processing all the 2010 DXCC applications. At this point, we are reconciling hybrid applications and determining final disposition of applications with problems. It will take us about one more week to finish these tasks, at which time we will shut down the DXCC system so that the data for 2010 (Annual Listings and Honour Roll listings) can be tabulated.

After we have the 2010 data, we will work with IT staff to incorporate the newest DXCC entities into LoTW and call for LoTW certificate requests from the PJ operations.

VUCC paper applications from 2010 and the first few weeks of 2011 have been entered into the VUCC system, but not processed further. Those who submitted those applications, and have accounts in LoTW, can see that data inside their accounts. Link requests for VUCC have been processed where it was possible without manual intervention. There are approximately 60 link requests that will require further work at HQ.

DXCC and VUCC fees are being evaluated. If the fees are changed (they will not be raised), the new rates will be applied to any applications received in 2011."

African DX

Malawi, 7Q. QSL Manager Allan, G0IAS, informs that he dropped Harry, 7Q7HB (G0JMU), at the airport for another trip to 7Q-land this past week. Length of stay is not known at this time,... possibly TWO MONTHS minimum. Harry will be busy the first week there, but after that he will try to be active as often as possible. Activity will probably be on the Digital modes and CW. QSL as usual is ONLY DIRECT to G0IAS with sufficient funds for return cards (After 1 April, 1 USD is no longer sufficient postage for ANY destination - UK postage has increased again). NO BUREAU cards. NO eQSLs. Just old-fashioned paper cards DIRECT! Allan states, "SORRY NO RETURN POSTAGE = NO CARD."

Ghana, 9G. Rob, PA3DEW, and Vincent, PA3FQX, will be active as 9G1AA from Ghana on 1 - 20 March. They plan to be active mostly on 20 and 15 SSB, with some activity on 40 metres. QSL via PA3ERA, direct or bureau.

Liberia, EL. Silvano, I2YSB, and his team, Vinicio, IK2CIO, Angelo, IK2CKR, Marcello IK2DIA and Stefano IK2HKT) will be active from Liberia (call sign TBA) from 31 March to 13 April. They plan to operate CW, SSB and RTTY on 80 - 10 metres with three stations on the HF bands and one dedicated station on 6 metres. QSL direct to I2YSB.

Further information, band/mode survey and Online QSL Request System can be found at www.i2ysb.com. Once again Arturo, IK7JWY, will be the pilot station for the expedition (it will be possible to contact him through the dedicated forum at www.hamradioweb.org/forums/

Lesotho, 7P8. Peter, EI7CC, will be active as 7P8PB from his brother-in-law's station (7P8CC/EI8CC) in Maseru between 9 and 23 March. Activity will be limited because he will be on

a family holiday and will operate when circumstances permit. QSL via EI7CC, by the Bureau or direct. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW immediately upon his return to Ireland. If possible, Peter may try to upload them while in Lesotho.

Lesotho, 7P8. Two members of the Texas DX Society, Frosty, K5LBU, (7P8CF) and Wayne, W5KDJ (7P8KDJ), will be active from the "Trading Post Lodge" in Roma between 11 and 20 March. Activity will be on 160 - 10 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. They plan to have 2 full time stations on the air for the entire period using a Tennadyne T6 at about 40 feet, a R7 vertical along with a Tennadyne TD-160 which is a folded Dipole that is 126 feet overall in length. QSL 7P8CF via K5LBU, direct or LoTW. QSL 7P8KDJ via W5KDJ, only direct with SASE, LoTW and eQSL (No Bureau cards please). Visit their Web page at http://www.tdxs.net/lesotho2011.html. A log search Web page will be available after their re-turn.

Morocco, CN. Mat, MJ0ASP, will be active as CN2MR from Marrakech, Kingdom of Morocco, on 14 - 21 March 2011. Plans are to be active on 40 – 10 m CW, with focus on the WARC bands. QSL via LotW and MJ0ASP, direct or bureau.

Sierra Leone DXpedition. Once again, in close cooperation between the DAGOE Foundation, Mercy Ships and 4 Dutch amateur radio operators, planning is being done for a DXpedition to Sierra Leone. The Team will stay in Sierra Leone between 28 March and 18 April. The location will be in the area of the capital Freetown. This DXpedition was originally planned two weeks earlier but their cargo container was delayed and because of that they lost that time-window. The team will use the call sign 9L5MS.
       Operators mentioned are: Arie, PA3A (CW/SSB), Bas, PD0CAV (SSB/RTTY), Ad, PA8AD (CW/SSB), Dickson, EL2DT, and Arie, PA3AN (SSB/RTTY). Activity will be on 160 - 6 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. The equipment consists of three transceivers and linears. The antennas are verticals for 160 – 30 m and beams for 20 – 6 m. For 160, 80, 40 and 30 m extra receiving antennas will be used to improve station receive capability. They will have a 160/80 m receive 4-square and 2 DHDL's for 30/40 m. They will take special care to listen for remote locations and small stations. Goal of the team is to work as many different stations as possible and to be open for the smaller stations ("little pistols"). As an experiment, the team will also try to work 6 m EME contacts using JT65 and a 5-element beam between 16 and 20 March, when the moon is in a good position.
       The Team is supported by Mercy Ships crew members and staff. The team set the following goals and will be able to reach these goals with help of the radio amateur community worldwide:
1. Activate the DXCC-entity Sierra Leone on the HF bands
2. Provide support for a Mercy Ships Charity Project
3. Raise funds for the Mercy Ships Charity Project
       All donations and surplus from the QSL will be transferred to the Mercy Ships Charity Project. QSL via PA3AWW, by the Bureau or direct (see info on the Web page). Also, QSLs can be requested with a donation via the OQSL request service on the Web page. For more details and updates, visit their Web page at: http://www.sierraleone2011.com/sl_2011/home.php

African Islands on the Air

Madeira, CT9. Rosel, DL3KWR, and Hardy, DL3KWF, will be active as CT9/DL3KWR and CT9/DL3KWF, from Madeira (AF-014) on 10 March - 6 April. They plan to operate mostly CW

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and on 12, 17 and 30 metres. Hardy will also give RTTY and PSK-31 a try. QSL via home calls. E-mail requests for bureau cards can be sent to dl3kwr[@]darc.de or dl3kwf[@]darc.de respectively. Their web site is at www.mydarc.de/dl3kwr.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 28 February to 7 March 2011.

CQC Winter QSO Sprint
01:00 – 02:59 UTC 28 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: RST, state, province or country, name and CQC member no, non-Member: RST, state, province or country, name and power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 4 points per QSO with non-member; 6 points per QSO with member; Bonus: 1 000 points for one or more QSOs with W0CQC or N0CQC
Multipliers: Each state/province/country once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 30 March 2011
E-mail logs to: ki0rb[at]arrl[dot]net
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.cqc.org/contests/winter11.htm

AGCW YL-CW Party
19:00 – 21:00 UTC 1 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: YL, OM, SWL
Exchange: YL: RST, serial no, "/YL/" and name; OM: RST, serial no, "/" and name
QSO Points: 1 point per YL - OM QSO; 2 points per YL - YL QSO; 0 points per OM - OM QSO
Extra Points: 1 point per country worked
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points and extra points
Submit logs by: 31 March 2011
E-mail logs to: dl6kcr[at]web[dot]de

Mail logs to: Dr. Roswitha Otto, DL6KCR, St. Nikolaus Str 26, D-52396 Heimbach, Germany
Find rules at:
http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:YL-CW-Party

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 2 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op (Fox/Hound)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 3 March 2011
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 4 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 40 m Only
Classes: Single Op (Fox/Hound)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 5 March 2011
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:

http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint
03:00 - 04:00 UTC 4 March
Mode: (see rules)
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: (see rules)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 6 March 2011
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

ARRL International DX SSB Contest
00:00 UTC 5 March to 24:00 UTC 6 March
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band (QRP/Low/High); Single Op Single Band; Single Op Assisted (Low/High); Multi-Single (Low/High); Multi-Two; Multi-Multi
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: W/VE: RS and (state/province); non-W/VE: RS and power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 3 points per QSO
Multipliers: W/VE: Each DXCC country once per band
Non-W/VE: Each state, District of Columbia, VE province/territory once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 4 April 2011
E-mail logs to: DXPhone[at]arrl[dot]org
Mail logs to: ARRL Intl DX Contest, Phone, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA
Find rules at: http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

Wake-Up! QRP Sprint
06:00 - 06:29 UTC, 06:30 – 06:59 UTC, 07:00 – 07:29 UTC and 07:30 - 08:00 UTC 5 March
Mode: CW

Bands: 40 and 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, serial no and suffix of previous QSO ("QRP" for 1st QSO)
Work stations: Once per band per period
QSO Points: 1 point per km
Multipliers: 1 point per new station worked on each band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total multiplier points
Submit logs by: 12 March 2011
E-mail logs to: ru-qrp-club[at]mail[dot]ru
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://qrp.ru/modules/sections/index.php?op=viewarticle&artid=7&page=1

Open Ukraine RTTY Championship
20:00 – 21:59 UTC 5 March (Low Band), 22:00 - 23:59 UTC 5 March (Low Band) and 08:00 - 11:59 UTC 6 March (High Band)
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op Multi-Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op Multi-Band
Exchange: 2-letter regional abbrev. (state, province, canton, etc.) and serial no (restart serial no for high band)
Work stations: Once per band per period
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO; 10 points per new region once per band per period
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total points
Submit logs by: 4 April 2011
E-mail logs to:
krs[at]model[dot]poltava[dot]ua
Mail logs to: George Ignatov, UT1HT, PO Box 87, Kremenchug-21 39621, Ukraine
Find rules at:
http://uarl.com.ua/openrtty/2011_open_ukr_chempionat_english.htm

DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest
11:00 - 17:00 UTC 6 March
Mode: RTTY, Amtor, Clover, PSK31, Pactor
Bands: 10 m Only
Classes: Single Op, SWL
Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each WAE/DCXX area; Each W/VE call area
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 21 March 2011
E-mail logs to: do1npf[at]darc[dot]de
Mail logs to: Peter Frank, DO1NPF, Postfach 11 19, 90515 Altdorf, Germany
Find rules at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport/bild-und-schrift-wettbewerbe/corona-maerz/teilnahmebedingungen/

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data

20:00 - 21:30 UTC 7 March
Mode: RTTY, PSK
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 14 March 2011
Upload log at:
http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2011/r80mcc.shtml

Next Week's Contests

ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 UTC-04:00 UTC 8 March
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 UTC-03:30 UTC 9 March
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 11:00 - 12:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 10 March
AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest, 23:00 UTC 9 March to 23:00 UTC 10 March and 23:00 UTC 12 March to 23:00 UTC 13 March
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 11 March
ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint, 15:00 - 18:00 UTC 12 March
EA PSK31 Contest, 16:00 UTC 13 March to 16:00 UTC 14 March
Idaho QSO Party, 19:00 UTC 12 March to 19:00 UTC 13 March
North American RTTY Sprint, 00:00 - 04:00 UTC 13 March
SKCC Weekend Sprint, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 13 March
UBA Spring CW Contest, 07:00 - 11:00 UTC 13 March
Wisconsin QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 13 March to 01:00 UTC 14 March
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint, 18:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 March
CLARA HF Contest, 17:00 UTC 15 March to 17:00 UTC 16 March and 17:00 UTC 19 March to 17:00 UTC 20 March

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 28 February 2011.

1675 John Flamsteed appointed 1st Astronomer Royal of England
1681 King Charles II grants William Penn royal charter for Pennsylvania
1863 Congress authorizes track width of 4'8½" for Union Pacific RR
1897 Marconi demos to UK Army etc achieving about 5 kms.
1893 Edison opens first motion picture studio, West Orange, New Jersey.
1894 First steel sailing ship Dirigo, launched in Maine, USA.

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1899 SS "R F Matthews" collided with the lightship, which alarmed the lighthouse ashore to get assistance. This was the first time ever a distress call was transmitted by radio from a ship at sea! Sent 'HELP' etc...
1908 Dutch scientists produce solid helium

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to ac-knowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest

Aim. This SSB Contest is open to all Radio Amateurs in South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zim-babwe, Swaziland, Mozambique, Lesotho, Marion Island and South African Antarctica. Only con-tacts with these areas will count.

Date and Time. First Sunday of March from 12:00 to 14:00 UTC [14:00 to 16:00 CAT]. [6 March 2011]

Frequencies. It is a phone contest in the band segments 7060 to 7100 kHz and 7130 to 7200 kHz.

Categories
a. Single operator stationary mobile
b. Single operator portable
c. Multi-operator portable
d. Single operator base station

Antennas. Antennas are limited to antennas with less than unity gain relative to a dipole. Sta-tionary Mobile stations shall use antennas that rely solely on their vehicles for support and shall not exceed a height of 5 metres above ground. Portable station antennas may not be erected and in-stalled before the day of the contest and no permanent manmade structure may be used to either house equipment or for antenna supports.

Power. Stationary Mobile and Portable stations shall operate from the same site for the dura-tion of the contest and all power used shall comply with the requirements for Field Stations in the general rules.

Exchange. Signal report followed by a three-figure number as follows:
Category a: Starting with 201 for the first contact
Category b: Starting with 401 for the first contact
Category c: Starting with 601 for the first contact
Category d: Starting with 801 for the first contact
Non-participants start with 001 for the first contact

Scoring. Scoring consists of points accumulated from all contacts, multiplied by a multiplier. Contact with a station in:

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Category a, b and c in own area 3 points
Category a, b and c in another area 4 points
Category d or non-participant in own area 1 point
Category d or non-participant in other area 2 points
Areas are as defined in the following list:
Area 1: ZS1
Area 2: ZS2
Area 3: ZS3
Area 4: ZS4
Area 5: ZS5
Area 6: ZS6
Area 7 (eastern group): 3DA, 7P, C9, Z2, ZS8
Area 8 (western group): A2, V5, ZS7

The multiplier consists of the number of call areas worked, multiplied by a power multiplier. The power multiplier is 2 for an output power of over 50 W PEP, and 3 for an output power of less than 50 W PEP.

Sponsor. Hamnet Eastern Cape, Al Akers, ZS2U, 53 Clarence Street, Westering, Port Elizabeth, 6025. E-mail: contest[at]pears[dot]ham-radio-op[dot]net. Closing date for log submission 13 March 2011